GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – PR&RD Department – Allegations of misappropriation of funds in DRDA/DDP, Ananthapur District – Imposition of a punishment of 25% cut in pension, permanently, in respect of Sri Sri D.U.S Bhaskara Rao, Executive Engineer (Retd), Ananthapur District under Rule of the AP Revised Pension Rules, 1980 – Orders – Issued.

PANCHAYAT RAJ AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (VIG.II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.498 **Dated:23-09-2021.**
Read the following:-

1)G.O.Rt.No.352, PR&RD(RD-II)Dept.,Dt:22.03-2000.
2)Written Statement of Defence of Sri N.V. Panduranga Rao, EE (Retd) dt:30.07.2000.
3)G.O.Rt.No.626 PR & RD (Vig-II) Dept., Dt:25.03.2004
4)G.O.Rt.No.1529 PR & RD (Vig. II) Dept., Dt:06.11.2007
5)D.O.Letter No.26/COI-CK/2004, Dt:22.05.2009 of the Commissioner of Inquiries, AP Secretariat, Hyderabad.
6)Govt.Memo.No.176/Vig.II/A1/2001-52 PR&RD(Vig-II)Dept.,Dt:18-12-2009.
7)Govt.Memo.No.176/Vig.II/A1/2001-61 PR&RD(Vig-II)Dept.,Dt:22-1-2013.
8)From the ENC, PR, Hyd. Lr.No.Vig-II(1)/13815/99, Dated:10-05-2013 & 03-07-2013.
9)Govt.Memo.No.176/Vig-II/A1/2001-65 PR&RD(Vig-II)Dept., Dt:17-8-2013.
10)From the ENC,PR, Vijayawada Lr.No.Vig.(4)/13815/99, Dated:18-07-2018.
11)Govt.Letter No.176/Vig.II/A1/2001-73 & 74 Dt:08.01.2021 & 30.06.2021
12)From the Secretary, APPSC, Vijayawada Lr.No.64/DC&C/2021, dt:17.08.2021.

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ORDER:

Based on the findings of the Vigilance & Enforcement Department in their Enquiry Report on the allegations of irregularities and misappropriation committed in utilization of DRDA/DDP funds in Ananthapur District during the year 1994-95 and 1996-97, disciplinary action was initiated against Sri D.U.S. Bhaskara Rao, Executive Engineer (Retd), Panchayat Raj, Ananthapur District along with others officials vide reference 1st read above duly issuing the following Article of charges:-

Charge-I: That Sri D.U.S. Bhaskara Rao, while functioning as Executive Engineer, PR Division, Tadipatri, Anantapur District has not followed the EAS guidelines specified at paras 1.7 and 5.5 of the said guidelines as a result several works were left incomplete after having spent large amount to a tune of Rs.5,62,12,600/- which has become infructuous, defeating the objectives of the scheme.

2. The Charged Officer in his written statement of defence has stated that he had not committed any financial or administrative irregularities during the short period of 30 days of his working as FAC Executive Engineer, PR, Tadipatri and denied the charge framed against him.

3. After examining the written statement of defence of the Charged Officer, Government entrusted the case to Commissionerate of Inquiries, General Administration Department, for detailed inquiry in the reference 3rd read above.

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4. In the reference 4th cited, Government have issued revised orders appointing Smt. Chandana Khan, I.A.S., Commissioner, Commissionerate of Inquiries, General Administration Department, as Inquiry Officer, under Rule 20 (2) of Andhra Pradesh Civil Service (CC&A) Rules, 1991, to conduct departmental enquiry against Sri D.U.S. Bhaskara Rao, EE (Retd) along with (6) others.

5. In the reference 5th cited, the Inquiry Officer has submitted her Inquiry Report. The Inquiry Officer in her analysis and assessment, the allegations are common against the Charged Officer-4 Sri D.U.S. Bhaskara Rao, EE (Retd) and other Charged Officers-2 & 3. The COs failed to maintain separate accounts for the funds under EAS and used EAS money for works under general pool. Further, though they took up huge number of works, they could complete only some and left other works at different stages and some of the works were not started at all. The V&E Department has found many of the incomplete works as wasteful and infructuous. Steel and cement were purchased under the EAS fund though the same were used for other works. Even if for the sake of argument, it is accepted that due to emergency, cement and other materials were diverted for other works, the same should have been recouped and adjusted. It appears that the same was not done; that it looks like that there has been lot of slackness in implementation and the implementing authority did not taken up frequent reviews, so that mid-term correction could have been made. There is nothing to dispute the technical facts in Vigilance report. Though, there is a case of wastage of Government money for improper planning and slack execution as several works could not be completed for want of additional budget or change of Government of India guidelines.

6. Government after taking into consideration the slackness of supervision and improper execution which led to huge wastage of Govt. money and the punishment imposed on the retired SEs., in this case, it is provisionally decided to impose the punishment of 25% cut in pension permanently on Sri D.U.S. Bhaskara Rao, EE (Retd). Accordingly, in the reference 6th read above, the report of the Inquiry Officer was communicated to all Charged Officers including Sri D.U.S. Bhaskara Rao, EE (Retd) with a request to submit their representation on the enquiry report. The Charged Officer Sri D.U.S. Bhaskara Rao, EE (Retd) has not submitted any representation.

7. In the reference 7th read above, show cause notice was issued to Sri D.U.S. Bhaskara Rao, EE (Retd) along with other retired employees for submitting their explanation, if any, on the proposed punishment of 25% cut in Pension permanently proposing on them.

8. In the reference 8th read above, the Engineer-in-Chief (PR) has informed that in respect of Sri D.U.S. Bhaskara Rao, EE (Retd), the postal authority have endorsed on the cover "Addressee Left" and in spite of specific efforts again made by Superintending Engineer (PR), Anantahapur the above retired officer is not traced out.

9. In the reference 9th read above, the Government have requested the Engineer-in-Chief (PR) to take necessary further action publishing the show cause notice in A.P. Gazette in respect of Sri D.U.S. Bhaskara Rao, EE (Retd), under Rule 42 (iii) of APCS(CCA) Rules, 1991.

10. In the reference 10th read above, the Engineer-in-Chief, PR, Vijayawada has informed that, as per the instructions of the Government in the reference 9th read above, the show cause notice in respect of Sri D.U.S. Bhaskara Rao, EE (Retd) have been published in A.P. Gazette on 16-07-2018 vide W.No.28.

11. Government after examining the matter, it is decided to confirm the provisional decision of imposing punishment of 25% cut in Pension permanently and sought the concurrence of APPSC on the said proposed punishment vide reference 11th read above. The APPSC vide reference 12th read above have concurred with the proposal of the Government.

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12. Accordingly, Government, hereby order to impose a punishment of 25% cut in pension permanently under Rule 9 of AP Revised Pension Rules, 1980, against Sri D.U.S. Bhaskara Rao, EE (Retd), Panchayat Raj, Ananthapur District.

13. The Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, Vijayawada shall take necessary further action in the matter accordingly.

14. The Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj Vijayawada is directed to publish this order in A.P. Gazette, as the Charged Officer address is not traced out by Postal Authority as well as SE, PR, Ananthapur and take necessary action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI,
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

To
Sri D.U.S. Bhaskara Rao, EE (Retd) Ananthapur District (now retired)
(Through Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, Vijayawada
(with a request to publish this order in AP Gazette and furnish the Gazette Notification copy)
The Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, Vijayawada.
Copy to:
The Accountant General, AP, Amaravathi, Vijayawada.
The General Administration (V&E)Department, Vijayawada.
(w.r.t.C.No.436/V&E/NR2/96, Dated 02.06.1998)
The Secretary, APVC, Secretariat Building-5, Velagapudi(1356/VC.G1/2003)
The Secretary, APPSC,
New Government Offices Building, 2nd Floor, MG, Road(Bandhar Road) Opp:
Indira Gandhi Municipal Complex, Vijayawada.(w.r.t Lr No.64/DC&C/2021 dt:17.8.2021)
SF/SC.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER